



Newsletter

St Mary's Catholic School Wellington

20 December 2024
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For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” Isaiah 9:6

Dear St Mary's Families,

This final edition of our School Newsletter celebrates the end of the 2024 school year. I would like to extend a sincere thanks to our families, extended families, staff and to the Wellington community for your support of our school and most importantly our students throughout 2024.

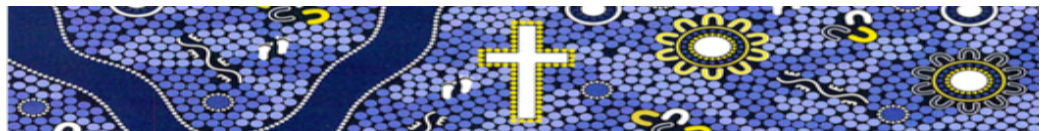
We are proud of our talented teachers and support staff who have nurtured and supported our students in their learning journey throughout 2024. To our Year 10 students and other families who are moving to new schools next year, we wish you all the very best. Good luck also to our school staff who are departing the SMCS team. We will miss you all.

A special thank you to Mrs Simpson, who is the amazing person behind our School Newsletters.

Have a wonderful family Christmas, stay safe and God Bless. Looking forward to 2025 and the adventures that the new year brings.

“ May your hearts be filled with the love of Jesus this Christmas.”

Mrs Leanne Clarke
Principal



VISION STATEMENT

St Mary's Catholic School is a Christ centred, inclusive community where individuals are supported to learn at high levels and to grow spiritually, socially and physically.

“We have gifts that differ, according to the grace given to each of us.”

(Romans 2:6)

DIARY DATES

Term 1 Week 1

Mon 03 Feb Staff Development Day - PUPIL FREE DAY
Tues 04 Feb Years 1-10 begin Term 1
Wed 05 Feb
Thur 06 Feb Kindergarten begin Term 1 / Tea and Tissues
Frid 07 Feb

Term 1 Week 2

Mon 10 Feb
Tues 11 Feb
Wed 12 Feb
Thur 13 Feb
Frid 14 Feb School Swimming Carnival | Newsletter



COMPASS APP

Please ensure you have Compass, the school app, on your phone as this is where alerts and important information is posted.

2025 School Term Dates

Term Dates 2025

Friday 31 January 2025 and Monday 3 February 2025 will be Pupil Free Days.
Further Pupil Free days to be advised.

Term 1	Year 1-10 commence Tuesday 4 February - Friday 11 April Kindergarten commences Thursday 6 February - Friday 11 April
Term 2	Monday 28 April - Friday 4 July
Term 3	Monday 21 July - Friday 26 September
Term 4	Monday 13 October - Friday 19 December



Pupil Free Dates 2025

Staff will have set professional learning days throughout 2025 and these will be pupil free days.

Friday 31 Jan/ Monday 3 February
Monday 24 March
Monday 9 May
Friday 5 September

Volunteers Needed Please

VOLUNTEERS needed to help decorate the altar and church for Christmas on **Monday 23rd December at 9.00am**. Families and children are most welcome.

Contact the parish office if you would like to help 6845 2061.

FLOWERS are also needed. If you have any flowers in your garden please bring to the sacristy on Monday morning at 9.00am.

Thank you.

Bishop's Christmas Appeal

This year, the [Bishop's Christmas Appeal](#) will support a very special cause: the rebuilding of a school in Santo, Vanuatu, which has been significantly impacted by hurricanes and an influx of families seeking refuge from a nearby volcanic eruption.

The school in Santo plays a vital role in the local community, providing education and stability to children whose families have been displaced. However, recent natural disasters have left the school severely damaged, making it challenging to provide the necessary facilities for learning and growth.

Support for the Bishop's Christmas Appeal - helping our neighbours in Santo, Vanuatu

Dear Parents and Staff,

As we approach the season of Advent and prepare to celebrate the joy of Christmas, we are reminded of the call to extend our love and generosity to those in need. This year, the [Bishop's Christmas Appeal](#) will support a very special cause: the rebuilding of a school in Santo, Vanuatu, which has been significantly impacted by hurricanes and an influx of families seeking refuge from a nearby volcanic eruption.

The school in Santo plays a vital role in the local community, providing education and stability to children whose families have been displaced. However, recent natural disasters have left the school severely damaged, making it challenging to provide the necessary facilities for learning and growth.

Your support for this appeal can make a meaningful difference, helping to build classrooms, provide essential resources, and restore hope for a brighter future for these children and their families.

Every contribution, no matter how small, is a step towards bringing joy and opportunity to those who need it most this Christmas. Donations over \$2.00 are Tax Deductible and can be made through the Diocesan Website <https://bathurst.catholic.org.au/help-build-a-future-support-the-bishops-christmas-appeal/>

Thank you for considering this opportunity to share the spirit of Christmas by supporting our neighbours in Vanuatu. Together, we can make a lasting impact on the lives of many.

A short video is available here with more information <https://youtu.be/ne52VuNWx0Q>

2024 Bishop's Christmas Appeal
Catholic Diocese of Bathurst

LEGATO CON AMORE
CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF
BATHURST

SCAN TO DONATE
TODAY

You can also give
to this collection
in your parish
on Christmas Day

*Donations over \$2
are tax deductible

Celebrating 40-50 Years Teaching

Recently the staff celebrated the incredible milestones and huge accomplishments of two teachers who truly shine in their teaching roles, with special qualities that deserve recognition.

Maureen Milgate celebrating 50 years in teaching.

Maureen is an amazing teacher and is innovative and passionate in the field of education. She has taught across a number of schools and has a special way of engaging students and teaching Mathematics in an exciting way. Maureen is a role model, mentor and friend, whose influence extends far beyond the classroom.

Leanne Clarke celebrating 40 years in teaching.

An inspirational leader and a dedicated teacher who walks with grace, kindness and empathy, leaving an impact unmatched. Leanne has a thoughtful and gentle way of educating not only minds but hearts, encouraging and awakening joy in all who cross her path.

We are so incredibly proud of the dedication and contributions you both have made to our school community and beyond. Congratulations!



Presentation Night 2024







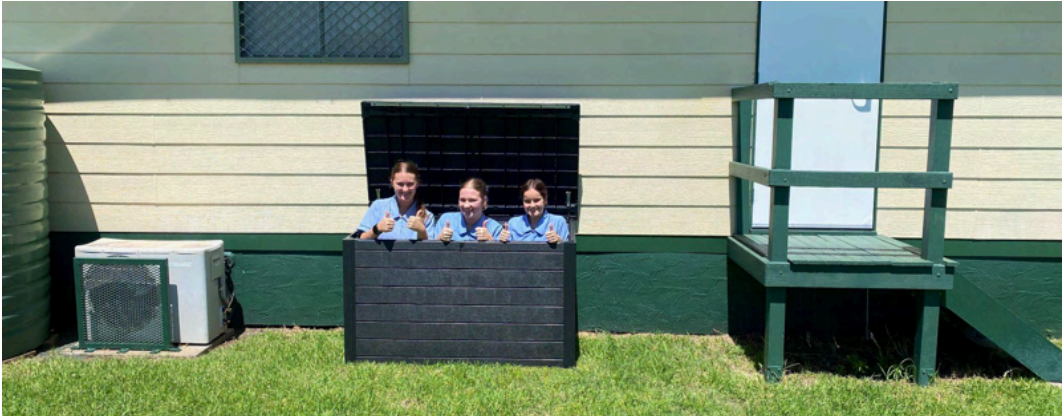
Year 6 Farewell - Good Luck





SRC Sports Equipment Box

The SRC have kindly donated a sports box to keep on the oval for students to access equipment during breaks. Thanks so much to the SRC students for organising this.



Mrs Hayley Jones & Ms Helen Stewart-Koster
SRC Coordinators

Little Saints Final Day - Kindergarten 2025!

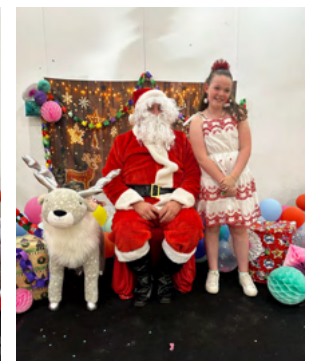


Congratulations Little Saints - See you next year.

K-2 Christmas Social



Year 3-6 Christmas Social



Year 7-9 Christmas Social



The Learning Hub Christmas Party



Reward Day / Class Parties K-2



Reward Day / Class Parties Years 3-4



Reward Day / Class Parties Years 5-10



Intensive Swimming K-2



Technology Timber - TV Units



Technology Timber Christmas Craft



Technology Timber Toys



Mathematically Protecting Eggbert

Students designed helmets to protect their eggs. They learnt about “force equations measurement” in a practical way.

Mrs Maureen Milgate
Mathematics Teacher



Basketball Clinic Year 7-10 Quit Be Fit



Year 5 Visit Maranatha House

Year 5 brought Christmas cheer and bells with Christmas hats and a smile. We recycled some used Christmas cards and helped the elderly make Christmas cards for their friends and families. Mr Nugent ran a process line with some of the cards making little boxes which we filled with a Santa chocolate. We left Maranatha wishing them all the blessings of Christmas.

Ms Louise Hennessy
Community Wellbeing Program Manager



LITTLEWINGS

WELLINGTON

CHRISTMAS EVE

IN CAMERON PARK

TUESDAY 24TH DECEMBER
10AM - 12PM

WHAT'S ON

SANTA VISITING
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS
FREE BBQ & DRINKS
FOOD HAMPERS
FACE PAINTING
FAMILY PHOTOS

FREE

EVENT

GOOGLE MAPS



Christmas tree pizzas

Preparation time: 25 minutes

Cooking time: 15 minutes

Makes: 8

Vegetarian, Nut free

Ingredients

4 small wholemeal pita bread
180g tomato-based pizza sauce
6 cherry tomatoes, sliced into rounds
1 yellow capsicum, cut into triangles & 8 stars
½ red capsicum, cut into strips
½ green capsicum, cut into triangles
4 pitted black olives, sliced into rounds
2 tsp Italian dried herbs
4 tbsp reduced-fat cheese, grated

Savvy swaps

You can swap:

Pita bread	➤ Flatbread
Pizza sauce	➤ Tomato paste
Christmas tree cutter	➤ Sharp knife to cut a triangle with a stem

Method

Step 1

Preheat oven to 200°C. Cut 2 tree shapes out of each pita bread with a Christmas tree shaped cookie cutter.

Step 2

Place the pita trees onto a lined baking tray.

Step 3

Spread tomato pizza sauce over each pita tree and arrange the ingredients like you are decorating a tree.

Step 4

Sprinkle with dried herbs and cheese.

Step 5

Bake for 15 minutes or until golden and cooked.

Food safety tip: If you are packing for lunch, pizza needs to be kept cold so pack an icebrick.

Tips

Nutrition tips

- Meals that use lots of different coloured vegies are rich in a wide range of nutrients.
- You can make this gluten free by using a gluten free pizza base.
- Capsicum provides Vitamin C. Vitamin C supports your immune system.



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FAMILY BINGO & TRIVIA

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**Wellington Soldiers Memorial
Club**

Friday 17th January 2025

11am



PRIZES & FUN



Pool Party

Free pool
Entry

Free Icy
Cups

WELLINGTON
POOL
24TH
JANUARY
10 AM - 2PM

Adult
Supervision
is required!

Free
Lunch

Please
bring
Sunscreen
& Hat

